



Annual Report 2021



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Preble County Public Health

admin@preblecountyhealth.org

937-472-0087

preblecountyhealth.org

615 Hillcrest Drive, Eaton 45320



Mission, Vision, and Core Commitments

Mission

The mission of Preble County Public Health is to promote and improve the health and well-being of the people living and/or working in Preble County.

Vision

Achieve the highest possible health and well-being for Preble County resident and workers.

Core Values

Team members at Preble County Public Health commit to...

1. Responsibility to the public
2. Quality in all services
3. Justice for all served
4. Teamwork with our community
5. Diversity of Preble County



Administration

The Board of Health

The Board of Health is comprised of five members to represent the citizens of Preble County. Four of the Board members are appointed by the District Advisory Council (which is comprised of the leaders of all municipal corporations in the county including townships, villages, cities, and County Commissioners). The other Board member is appointed by the Mayor of the City of Eaton. By Ohio law, at least one Board member must be a licensed Physician. Board members are appointed for a term of five years.

George E. Henry serves as the President, represents the City of Eaton, and his term expires in March 2026.

JoEllen Tapalman serves as President Pro Tempore, represents the County, & her term expires in March 2025.

Dr. Peter Sambol serves as the Board Physician, represents the County, and his term expires in March 2024.

Lori J. George represents the County, and her term expires in March 2023.

Ron Wesler represents the County District Licensing Council (DLC), and his term expires in March 2022.

The Health Commissioner

The Health Commissioner is Josh Lucas, and he has served in this role since November 2021. Josh directs the daily operations of the agency as it serves the public health needs of 40,999 people in Preble County. Josh is responsible for all policy development, financial decisions, staffing, workforce training, programming, grant management, and strategic leadership. He ensures that resources are utilized effectively and efficiently to maximize return-on-investment while working with his team to address current community health needs and anticipate future public health threats. One of his biggest priorities is ensuring that the agency provides exceptional customer service to the public.

What's in this report?

Annual reports are usually filled with numbers that aren't all that useful without context. Instead, we want to highlight the most important things that happened in each of our primary programs during 2021. Our hope is that you see how relevant public health programs operate in Preble County.

Vital Statistics

Birth Certificates can be issued through our office for anyone born in the state of Ohio, for \$22 each. In 2021, Preble County had 6 home births in county. Our office issued a total of **1,300 birth certificates**, in 2021.



Death Certificates can be issued for \$22 for each. Our office issued **1,515 death certificates**. In 2021, Preble County had 312 deaths. Most common causes of death in 2021 were: **heart related, cancer, viral diseases, and chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases**.

Our staff continues to work with the Ohio Department of Health to correct errors found on birth and death records. We also strive to help the public the best we can with any issues regarding birth and death records.

Community Health and Safety

Through generous donations from EvenFlo and the Ohio Buckles Buckeyes program, our certified car seat technician was able to **install 34 free child safety seats for our low-income Preble County residents**. Participants received in-person education about the proper use of car seats and an in-car demonstration of how to correctly install the seat in a vehicle.



In 2000, Ohio House Bill 448 mandated Boards in all Ohio Counties to review the deaths of children under 18 years of age and formulate data-driven recommendations to prevent future child deaths. The Child Fatality Review Board reviewed seven child death cases in 2021.

As part of the state of Ohio initiative to combat infant mortality, PCPH has partnered with Cribs for Kids® to ensure infants have a safe sleeping environment. Babies who sleep on couches, in bed with others, or on their stomachs are more likely to die from an unexpected sudden cause. **Preble County promotes the ABCs** of infant safe sleep practices - place infants **A**lone, on their **B**ack, in a **C**rib. Six Pack and Play Cribettes with safe sleep kits were distributed in 2021.

Did You Know

PCPH employs 18 people to serve 41,000 residents with essential public health services. Talk about doing a lot with a little! Our budget is one of the smallest in the county, but our preventative services save the healthcare system real money. Like the tune of saving \$15 in healthcare costs for every \$1 spent on public health in Preble.

Emergency Preparedness

In 2021, efforts in the emergency response division continued with the COVID-19 pandemic. Even though distribution of masks, gloves, and gowns to priority partners continued, our efforts shifted more to vaccine clinics. The major roll-out of vaccine distribution came in the early part of 2021 and continued through the spring. In the summer we began distribution of rapid test kits, which continued through the end of the year. In October, vaccine efforts picked up again with booster doses and continued through the end of 2021.



The Preble County Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) has been actively involved in our COVID-19 response efforts since the beginning and continued to be essential in our mass vaccination clinics throughout 2021. MRC volunteers not only helped staff our vaccine clinics at all capacities, but also played a major role in assisting individuals with scheduling appointments. Our response efforts wouldn't be possible without these incredible volunteers. In 2021, 90 MRC volunteers collectively gave a huge total of 2566.5 hours, which equated to \$89,321.82 in economic value. You can find more information on how to join and help the Preble County MRC by visiting preblecountyhealth.org/emergency-preparedness.



Environmental Health

The Food Safety Program is one of our services that has transitioned from paper to digital through implementation of an **electronic inspection program** to manage facility information more efficiently and produce food service inspections to enhance public awareness. Our hope is that this improves transparency between our license holders and the public.

Environmental Health Sewage Program is incorporating private sewage systems throughout the county into our Operation and Maintenance (O&M) program. The O&M Program is a service we provide property owners to inspect their onsite septic system either on a 1 year, 5 year or 10-year rotation based on the complexity of the system. This inspection is performed to ensure the system is operating properly, not malfunctioning and not creating a public health nuisance.

The Environmental Health Nuisance & Rabies Program responds to and investigates public health nuisance complaints, as well as animal bites and rabies. A public health nuisance is when a property is in a condition that threatens or potentially threatens the health of an individual or a community. Nuisance concerns range from accumulation of trash to rat and rodent infestations. Rabies is a viral disease of mammals that are transmitted through the bite of a rabid animal. An Environmental Health Technician investigates every nuisance concern and animal bite submitted to the health department.

Nursing and Clinical Services

PCPH Nursing Clinic offers childhood, teen, and adult vaccines. We bill most insurances and offer discounted pricing or vaccine assistance programs for those with no insurance. During 2021 our Registered Nurses administered over 2,000 vaccinations. Additionally, we administered over 15,559 COVID-19 vaccinations. Our nurses serve as a resource to district school nurses and local practitioners for immunization education and vaccine schedule updates.

Through the provision of safe affordable immunizations, the public is protected from vaccine preventable diseases such as Chickenpox, Diphtheria, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Human Papillomavirus, Influenza, Measles, Meningococcal Meningitis, Mumps, Pertussis, Pneumonia, Polio, Rotavirus, Rubella, and Tetanus.



PCPH nurses served 182 children and families through Children with Medical Handicaps (CMH) program. Children from birth to 21 years of age with chronic medical conditions receive case management, care coordination and home visits from our public health nurses.

Our nurses also offer TB testing, pregnancy testing, childhood lead case management, communicable disease investigation and education, paternity DNA testing, resources, and referrals.

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

The WIC Program provides both **nutritious foods and nutrition education** to our participants. New foods added this year were yogurts, cheeses and increased values of fruits and vegetables. In 2021 our average caseload, or number of individuals receiving food benefits, was 645 per month. We served about 135 women, 195 infants and 315 children each month. Everyone receives nutrition education on a quarterly basis, which came to approximately 198 nutrition education contacts per month. Many of these education sessions are geared toward the participant's own desired health outcome.

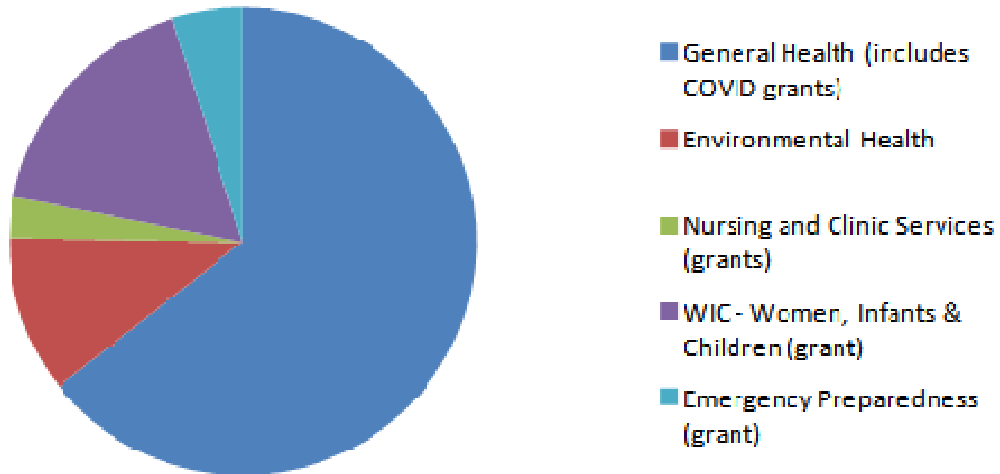


Two registered dietitians complete the nutrition assessments and provide nutrition counseling for our families. We continue community nutrition education with the Eaton Middle School 8th grade health classes, providing a lesson plan on Dietary Guidelines and MyPlate for more than 140 students. We Precepted a dietetic intern from West Chester University, allowing her to complete her 4-week community nutrition practicum with us.

Breastfeeding support is a cornerstone of WIC services. We have a mom breastfeeding peer helper, a lactation specialist, and an International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant on staff. At times this year more than 50% of our postpartum women were breast feeding. We co-lead the Breast Friends of Preble County support group, and have breastfeeding help available through our peer phone line 24/7.

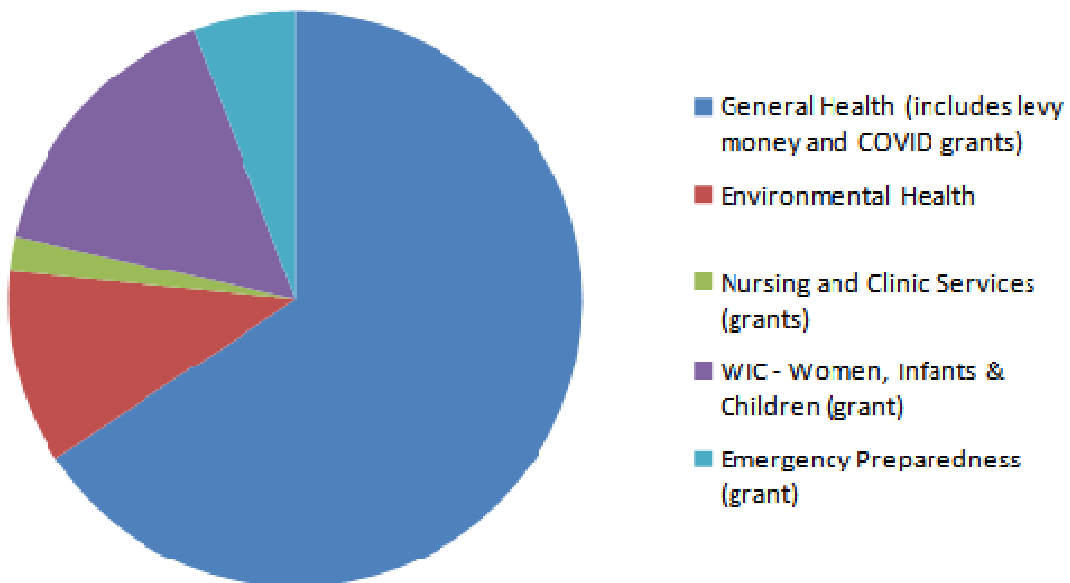
Financial Picture

2021 PCPH Expenses



The general health fund covers a variety of essential operating functions, including unfunded mandates. Environmental Health includes the following funds: sewage, solid waste, water systems, swimming pools, food service and trailer parks.

2021 PCPH Revenue



The general health fund revenue includes levy money, plumbing, vital statistics and COVID grants. Environmental Health includes the following funds: sewage, solid waste, water systems, swimming pools, food service and trailer parks.

Preble County Public Health continues to be fiscally responsible by saving and spending in a manner that serves the public health needs of the community.